



"LIBERTY OR DEATH."

Prairie City, Kansas, Aug. 20, 1857.

Voice of the Northern Press.

We publish on our first page of this number, extracts from some of our Eastern exchanges, for the purpose of showing our readers that the sympathy which was extended us by the North during our struggles of the past two years is not yet abated; but, on the contrary, is more fervid and ardent than ever. While the position we have taken in refusing to pay taxes and disclaiming allegiance to the puny bastard offspring of whisky-swilling invaders and usurpers, is considered reasonable by the slavery-propagating Khan of Kansas, the followers of the quintessence, compound-concentrated extract of dough-faceism and demagogueism—S. ARNOLD DOUGLAS—the South and the pro-slavery Administration, we have the consoling reflection that the North—the noble, the intelligent, the liberty-loving North—is with us, and that in the event we, who are far from being guilty of such heinous crimes as were the rebels of '76, should from necessity be compelled to resist by arms the encroachments upon rights by federal troops, we may expect assistance and "material aid" from them. Our position is well understood by our friends in the North, and a correct knowledge of that position, by all lovers of humanity and justice, cannot but win for us their sympathies, their prayers and their aid. That we stoutly refuse to be dragged into submission of Missouri laws by a soldiery held subservient to the will of a drunken representation of a corrupt government, they are aware, and knowing that fact, tacitly exclaim, "You are right! We are with you!" Have we reason to doubt that we are in want of friends?

The chief editors of the principal papers of New York city seem struck with a passion for rambling in Europe—or rather their families are. Mr. Bryant, of the *Evening Post*, is now abroad with his; Mr. Raymond, of the *Times*, has gone to place his wife and children in Paris for a year or two; Mr. Greeley and his family will sail again for Europe in October, to be absent probably for a year. The wife of Bennett, of the *Herald*, resides permanently in Paris, and, report says, spends one quarter of the great income of that establishment, or not less than \$25,000 a year.

More Howling.

Keitt, of South Carolina, has published a letter fiercely denouncing Gov. Walker. He declares that the proposition to refer the constitution to the people is worse than Black Republicanism—it is French Red Republicanism. He threatens to denounce Mr. Buchanan, if he proves to be implicated in Walker's treachery to the South, and concludes:

"I believe from all the signs, that the democracy will be defeated in 1860; and while I entertain this belief I shall not conceal it. I believe that the safety of the South is only in herself. The road to federal honors should not be over her rights, nor should betrayal and treachery be the passport to federal favor. My advice, then, to the South is, to have some—not absolute confidence in the national democratic party, and to keep her powder dry. The latter is much more likely to save her, than the former."

NATIONAL TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.—A Convention of this character has been called to meet at Chicago on the 10th of next November. The object of this Convention is mainly to secure concentration among the friends of temperance, a comparison of views respecting the various modes by which the work has hitherto been conducted, and to agree upon some plan of future operations by which concert of action may be secured.

For 1860. The Republican members of the New Hampshire Legislature, by unanimous vote, placed John C. Fremont in nomination as a candidate for the Presidency in 1860.

A Pretty Picture.

What an alarming fact it is that an army of this free American Government, which receives four-fifths of its sustenance from the North, is now employed to rivet still firmer the yoke of oppression upon the necks of a people who are bound by the ties of consanguinity, friendship and affection to the maintainers of that army!—and still more alarming is the fact that the formidable array of armed hosts now quartered in our midst, ready to deal "death and destruction" unto us at a moment's command, are at the service of a man whose brain is crazed and whose passions are inflamed from the effects and fumes of frequent alcoholic potations, and when revelling in his drunken orgies, is liable at any moment, at the suggestions and entreaties of his boon companions—"Jeffreys," "Lecompte," "Martyr" Jones, "Doughface" Donaldson, and like "birds of a feather,"—to occasion the effusing of blood and the committing of deeds so foul, so atrocious and so damnable, as to cause the heart of their author at his restoration to reason, to recoil! Oh! don't we enjoy to the fullest extent the rights of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness!" and doesn't our noble government *amply protect* us in the enjoyment of those rights!

Shall the Free State Party Vote at the October Election?

We considered this subject last week, and we then showed that fraud, rascality and villainy, those dangerous and characteristic elements which the Free State party heretofore have had to contend with, are to bear against us at the Fall election, and that all efforts to redress our grievances at the ballot-boxes, so long as they are under the control of the bogus government and the Border Ruffians, would prove unavailing. It is a settled matter that no one can vote at this election without having first paid a tax; and we have heard it asserted—and by good authority—that no one can vote whose name is not registered on the Border-Ruffian census-list. With these facts in view, then we see no use of pursuing the question any farther. If we cannot vote with success, then it will be fool-hardiness to attempt it.

Road Meeting.

A meeting of the citizens of Prairie City and vicinity was held at the United Brethren Church in Prairie City on Saturday the 15th inst., to take into consideration the propriety of establishing a line of stages from Wyandott to Prairie City and Southern Kansas.

On motion, Dr. WM. GRAHAM was called to the Chair, and S. S. PROUTY was elected Secretary.

The object of the meeting being stated, the advantages to accrue to Prairie City and Southern Kansas by establishing such a route being amply discussed, it was moved by S. S. PROUTY that a mass Convention of the citizens of the towns from Wyandott to the Neosho country, be held at Prairie City on Wednesday, Sept. 21 to devise means for effecting the consummation of the project.

On motion it was carried.

S. S. PROUTY stated that a movement was on foot to establish a tri-weekly mail line of stages from Lawrence to Coffeyville via. Prairie City, Ohio City and Hyatt, and that the citizens of the towns on the Southern portion of the proposed route had ordered a convention to be held at Ohio City on Saturday, 22d inst., to contemplate the matter, and had requested the citizens of Prairie City to be represented at that convention.

On motion five delegates, consisting of Capt. S. T. SHORE, Dr. WM. GRAHAM, S. S. PROUTY, H. GIFFORD and S. V. McMANUS were elected to attend the Ohio City Convention.

On motion the meeting adjourned. WM. GRAHAM, Pres't. S. S. PROUTY Sec'y.

The patent pressed brick, lately introduced into Lawrence, are said to have proved a failure.

Remember the great sale of lots to take place in Prairie City on Saturday the 29th inst.

Wyandott and Southern Kansas Stage Route.

By the proceedings published in another column it will be seen that a movement is on foot to greatly enhance the travelling facilities for emigrants to Southern Kansas. It is proposed to establish a line of Stages from Wyandott, which is the nearest point on the Missouri river to Southern Kansas, directly to Neosho City. Glancing over the map we find that Olathe, Gardner, Prairie City, Centropolis, and Sac Agency, are in the line of this route, and if the citizens of those towns are fully awake to the importance of the project, it cannot fail to succeed.

Many of the people in the States who design emigrating to Kansas, have their eye on the Neosho and Cottonwood country, and the present means of reaching those sections, when public conveyance is brought into requisition, is *via*. Lawrence. Thus many miles of tedious and unnecessary travel are now attendant on the emigrant, which would be avoided were the contemplated line of stages established.

The advantages these town will derive from having such an important line of stages passing through them, are too plainly seen for us to attempt to point them out. It is hoped that the interest which the importance of the project demands, will be properly manifested by these towns by being ably represented at the meeting in Prairie City, on the 2d Sept.

PROUTY, of the *Freemen's Champion*, makes a milk-and-water denial of Mr. Phillip's statement about Brown's advances to him (Prouty) as related by our Lawrence correspondent a few weeks since. It amounts to no denial at all; and if Prouty had had time to reflect, and not been 'snapt up' so fiercely by Brown while in the *Herald* office, he would not have placed himself in this ridiculous position. Brown does not deny Mr. Phillip's statement, but contents himself with referring to Prouty. All the satisfaction he can get out of Prouty's explanation will do him very little good.—*Kansas News*.

If "Brown" can get no satisfaction out of "Prouty's" statement, then what are you blowing about, "Capt." PRUTY? In our explanation, we gave the facts in the case, whether they amount to a denial or not. If our statement is a "milk-and-water" one, and our position a "ridiculous" one, we don't see why you should feel so concerned about it.

EIGHTY NEGROES SET FREE.—The Harrisburg Telegraph states that Col. Thomas Hite and other citizens of Jefferson county, Va., set free eighty of their slaves on Thursday last.—The Colonel, as the agent of the owners, accompanied them to Middleburg, Pa., when, handing each individual forty dollars in money, and equipping them all with sufficient clothing they were set at liberty.

Tri-Weekly Mail.

A call has been issued for the convening at Ohio City on Saturday, 22d inst., of delegates from every town on the line from Lawrence to Coffeyville, to take necessary measures for establishing a tri-weekly mail between the two latter points, connecting at all the intervening towns. Prairie City has already appointed a delegation to represent her, and it is hoped that all towns interested in the matter will do their duty. A tri-weekly mail is what we are very much in need of, and a little effort in the proper direction will secure it. Let the meeting be well attended.

Several men were arrested at Franklin recently by the bogus authorities, which occasioned considerable excitement at first, it being supposed that it was on account of some of last year's difficulties, but it proved to be owing to a rumpus lately kicked up by some of the boys of Franklin. "Old Crane," of Crane's Hotel, had done something distasteful to them, so they pitched him out of his own house. The old sinner applied to the bogus authorities to obtain redress, but it will amount to nothing.

Matters still quiet in Lawrence. The Pacificator and the troops are faithfully guarding the cannibals, to prevent them from eating each other up.

In courtship, three hard sneezes are better than fifty soft words.—Try it.

Arrival of More Aurora People.

Mr. GIFFORD arrived in town last week, accompanied by Messrs. N. OTIS, LOREN OTIS, WARD N. SHED, HENRY COE and WM. HACKNEY.—They are all delighted with our town and country, and express their determination to locate among us. Mr. GIFFORD informs us that he has purchased \$2,000 worth of castings, including plows, harrows, &c., which he designs bringing into this market as soon as there is a sufficient demand for such articles. Mr. OTIS is the proprietor of a hardware store in Aurora, and if he removes, will undoubtedly engage in some similar business here. Mr. SHED is a surveyor, and Messrs. COE and HACKNEY are carpenters. They are just such men as are needed in Prairie City, and we heartily welcome them.

The "Declaration" Repudiated in Egypt.

It is said that in a certain town in Southern Illinois, on the 4th of July, the highly Democratic population, having heard something of the heretic character of the Declaration of Independence, refused to hear it read, till a wag asserted it was written by Senator Douglas.

The reader was then allowed to proceed, but when he came to the passage declaring "all men created equal," the sturdy Democratic spirit could bear it no longer, and the crowd went off cursing the "abolitionists" and declaring that "Douglas was too good a Democrat to write such stuff!"

Lawrence and Osawatomie Tri-Weekly Mail.

We are happy to inform our readers that we now have a tri-weekly mail passing through Prairie City, which will greatly enhance our facilities for obtaining news and also for distributing our papers. Our mail for the south which has heretofore been compelled to lay over nearly a week after the day of issuing, will now leave on the day of publication. This new arrangement went into effect last Monday.

Attention, Mechanics!

There is wanted immediately in Prairie City, Wagon-makers, Harness-makers, Chair-makers, Tailors and Tin-smiths. There is a constant demand for articles in the line of all the above branches of business. No place in the Territory will yield more profits to mechanical pursuits than Prairie City. See what liberal inducements the Prairie City Association offer to mechanics to locate and pursue their vocations among us, in their advertisement on the fourth page of the *Champion*.

One of the Advertisements.

The Princeton (Ill.) *Post*, of the 23d ult., has the following in its advertising column:—

"WANTED.—The subscriber is engaged in the manufacture of *Soft Soap*, and wishes to obtain 10,000 copies of the *Bureau County Democrat*. Any of the papers issued since its first establishment will do. People tell me they are a great sight better than ashes, being almost clear lie. SALLY TIPTOP."

The *Post* says she succeeded in obtaining several copies, and sure enough they were all lie, but her efforts, however, were unavailing, as the lie was too weak!

The Hon. Hamilton Fish and family sailed for Havre in the *Arago*, which left New York July 25th. It is possible that he may stay in Europe during the coming two years.—It is understood that his colleague, Senator Seward, is also contemplating a foreign tour somewhat more extensive than that of Gov. Fish; for whereas the latter intends to limit his journey to the principal countries of Europe, Mr. Seward includes in his circumnavigation of the globe, together with a visit to the Sandwich Islands.

DAVID GRIFFITH Esq. and Son, from Lyons, N. Y., have come to reside among us. They have purchased claims about one mile from here and they contemplate, after erecting suitable dwellings on them, to build in town. Mr. GRIFFITH appears to be a live business man.

The last mail brought Ned Bowers two letters—responses to his matrimonial advertisement. Good luck for you, Ned!

Washington and Slavery.

By the following letter of Washington to Tobias Lear, written in 1794, empowering him to sell a portion of his landed estate, we have a clear statement of his repugnance to slaveholding, and of his desire to be delivered from it. He says:—

"I have no scruple in disclosing to you my motives to these sales are to reduce my income, be it more or less, to specialties, that the remainder of my days may thereby be more tranquil and free from care, and that I may be enabled, knowing what my dependence is to do as much good as my resources will admit; for although in the estimation of the world I possess a good and clear estate, yet so unproductive is it, that I am often-times ashamed to refuse aid which I cannot afford unless I sell part of it to answer this purpose. Besides these I have another motive which make me earnestly wish for these things—it is indeed more powerful than all the rest—namely, to liberate a certain species of property which I possess very repugnant to my own feelings, but which imperative necessity compels, until expenses not in my power to avoid (however well I may be disposed to do it) can be defrayed."

Where are the *Washingtons, Jeffersons, Franklins, Adamses, and Henrys* of our day who are not afraid to vow their honest sentiments?

It Won't Go Down.

The *Herald of Freedom*, wants the Free State men to let the Topeka Constitution go by default, vote against the bogus Constitution to be framed, if submitted to a vote of the people, no matter what kind of a Constitution it is, because it is an exotic; but to act under it if Kansas be admitted under it without its being voted on by the people; to elect a Territorial delegate to Congress, and a Territorial Legislature, and let the Territory remain a Territory as long as possible, only to be admitted in time to cast an electoral vote in 1860.

If the *Herald of Freedom* wishes to defeat the "bogus" Constitution, we should like to know why it wishes the Topeka Constitution to go by default? Why, in order to have Kansas remain in the condition of a Territory, and suck Federal pap as long as it may. We should think Brown has had experience enough in that line, in his sufferings and wrongs—destruction of his office, imprisonment, etc. Does he wish to have Lecompte continue his Jeffrain Judgeship, when by being admitted as a State, they might elect their own magistrates? Brown must love his enemies pretty well. Of course the platform of the *Herald of Freedom* will be rejected by the people of Kansas.—*Republican Union, Aurora, Illinois*.

DEFINITION OF ADMITTANCE.—In Lynchburgh, Va., there is a lad proverbial as being a bad speller. The school that he attends has, among its many rules and regulations, one that requires the scholars to spell a column in the Dictionary, and "give the meaning," just as the school opens. Well, this lad was "foot" of his class. The next day the first word was "admittance." This lad had been walking around sight seeing, when his eye lit upon a circus bill which, among other inducements to draw a crowd, had, "admittance 25 cents—niggers and children half price." Our young friend spelled the word, and learned it "by heart." Next day, strange to say, the head boy missed, and the next, and the next, and so on, until it came to our particular friend, who was, in the meantime, all excitement with the hope of getting "head," being sanguine that he was right. Here is the result:

TEACHER—Boy at the foot, spell "admittance."

BOY—Ad-mit-tance, admittance.

T.—Give the definition.

B.—Twenty-five cents—niggers and children half price!

FROM FORT LARAMIE.—The Fort Laramie trains arrived the present week, with 12,000 Buffalo robes, besides furs, peltries etc. The trains belong to Messrs Ward & Geary, extensive traders in the mountains, and filled the streets leading into town far in the rear of the bluff. The wagons looked like immense elephants, being filled high above the bed and tightly covered with tarpaulins. This is the richest freight received at any one time the present season.

They represent the grass as abundant on the Kansas River route, and all quiet as they came through.—Their news from the plains has been anticipated by the mail arrivals of the present month.—*Kansas City Enterprise*.

THE WICKED PRENTICE TALKING AGAIN.—The Boston *Courier* says that "the Democratic party has tried every policy." It has tried every one except "the best" and that's "honesty."—*Louisville Journal*.

"UNCLE JOHNNY" wants more masons. See his advertisement.

Sketch of a Border Ruffian.

Dr. Gihon, the Private Secretary of ex-Governor Geary, gives the following truthful and graphic picture of the world-renowned Border Ruffian.—Every citizen of Kansas will attest to its accuracy. As the race is fast becoming extinct, so few now being found who will acknowledge the name, they will soon be as scarce as witches. Hence, a painting of them drawn from life, will in a few years be of great interest:

"Active preparations for war were discernible at all the river towns.—At Lexington, a large crowd was assembled on the levee, many of the persons comprising it loaded with arms. But at Kansas City the warlike demonstrations were still greater. This town is on the southern side of the mouth of the Kansas river, which, at this point, separates Missouri from the Territory of Kansas. It is situated about five miles from Westport, near the eastern boundary of Kansas, where the Missouri army was concentrating preparatory to the invasion of the Territory. Both of these towns have become notorious as places of refuge for the most desperate characters, whose almost nameless crimes have blackened the annals of Kansas, and as being the resorts of numerous combinations which have there congregated to plot against its peace.—In a word, they are the strong-holds of the worst of the 'Border Ruffians.'"

Let it not be understood that this latter term is considered by those to whom it is applied as one of reproach. On the contrary they boast of it, are proud of it, glory in it, and do all in their power to merit it, and very many of them have been eminently successful. In this manner they assume the character of a ruffian—in their dress they exhibit the appearance of the ruffian—and in their conversation they are ruffians indeed.—They imitate and resemble the guerrillas, ladrones, or greasers of Mexico—the brigands of Spain or Italy, or the pirates, robbers and murderers of the theatre. On the levee at Kansas City stood a sort of omnibus or wagon, used to convey passengers to and from Westport, upon either side of which was painted, in flaming capitals, the words 'BORDER RUFFIAN.' Standing about in groups, or running in every direction, were numbers of the men who claim for themselves that gentle appellation.

A description of one of these will give the reader some idea of their general characteristics. Imagine, then, a man standing in a pair of long boots, covered with dust and mud, and drawn over his trousers, the latter made of coarse, fancy-colored cloth, well soiled—the handle of a large bowie-knife projecting from one or both boot-tops—a leather belt buckled around his waist, on each side of which is fastened a large revolver—a red or blue shirt, with a heart, anchor, eagle, or some other favorite device braided on the breast and back, over which is swung a rifle or carbine—a sword dangling by his side—an old slouched hat, with a cockade or brass star on the front or side, and a chicken, goose or turkey feather sticking in the top—hair uncut and uncombed, covering his neck and shoulders—an unshaven face and unwashed hands. Imagine such a picture of humanity, who can swear a given number of oaths in any specified time—drink any quantity of bad whisky without getting drunk, and boast of having stolen a half-dozen horses and killed one or more abolitionists, and you will have a pretty fair conception of a border ruffian as he appeared in Missouri and Kansas.

He has, however the happy faculty of assuming a very different aspect. Like other animals, he can shed his coat and change his colors. In the City of Washington, he is quite another person. You will see him in the corridors of the first-class hotels, upon Pennsylvania Avenue, in the Rotunda of the Capitol, or the spacious halls of the White House, dressed in the finest broadcloth, and in the extreme of fashion; his hair trimmed, his face smoothed, and his hands cleansed; his whole deportment that of innocence, and his speech so smooth, studied and oily, as to convince even the sagacious President himself, that he is a veritable and polished gentleman, and obtain from the wise heads that form the cabinet, the most important posts of trust, honor and emolument in the gift of the nation."

From a private letter lately received from Oakland, Mich., we are informed that the wheat crop is light, but that other crops never were better. The writer also says that several young men from that section design emigrating to Prairie City this fall. Come along. There are fortunes for you here.

A school teacher who was married at Tipton, Indiana, on the 17th inst., was arrested the same evening at Kokomo, on a charge of bigamy. He is said to have eight wives.

Advertisement at bottom right.